

**SITUATION REPORT NO. 3**  
**INCIDENT NO. 99-068**  
**DATE: August 20, 1999    TIME: 10:00 a.m.**

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer  
State Capitol  
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Severe Summer Storms -- Heavy rainfall associated with severe summer storms that struck the state on August 11-12 and August 15 caused street flooding, sewer backup and basement flooding. The additional rainfall compounded problems with high water tables as excess precipitation caused flooding of infrastructure and homes.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No deaths or injuries have been reported.
3. DAMAGES: An August 15 tornado damaged trees, farmsteads and 2,050 acres of corn, sunflower and wheat in Ransom County, the local U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) emergency board reported. Percent of yield loss for the crops ranges from 40 to 50 percent. The emergency board placed damages to 10 farm homes and service buildings at \$750,000 and farm machinery and equipment at \$450,000.

Dunn County was also impacted on August 15 by a severe thunderstorm, characterized with heavy rain, marble- to baseball-sized hail and winds of up to 80 miles per hour (mph). The storm caused damages in the Manning and Halliday areas, downing power lines and tearing or damaging roofs. Emergency management officials reported that county roads were impacted by runoff. A pickup truck, pulling a camper, was blown off N.D. Highway 22 and into a ditch, where it came to rest on its side. The local USDA emergency board placed percent of yield losses at 50 to 60 percent for 8,309 acres of wheat, corn, oats, barley, sunflower and mustard. Losses to 23 farm homes and service buildings sustained were estimated at \$87,000 and \$10,000 for two pieces of farm machinery and equipment. Agriculture officials received reports that cattle were either injured or had bled to death from severe cuts when they tried jumping through fences during the storm.

Ten additional Bismarck homeowners and rental property owners have reported damages, bringing the total number of reports to 123. These damages occurred as a result of heavy rainfall on August 11-12 that totaled 6.54 inches.

In Kidder County, up to 12 inches of rain fell in rural areas, between Steele and Tuttle, during the August 11-12 storm. A second storm passed through the Steele area on August 15, bringing 0.60 inches of rain. A tornado was spotted between Steele and Driscoll. County officials have received reports of caved-in basement walls from rural residents in the Steele area. Crop damage appears to be extensive; crops were either swathed or flattened. Emergency response has

been delayed by detours around inundated road sites. Many of these road sites had recently been repaired because of spring flooding damages.

4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTION: No change from previous reports.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS: During the next few days, a local-state-federal Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) will be conducted in Burleigh and Kidder Counties, as well as the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Berthold Indian Reservation. The PDA is in response to initial damages reported by local and tribal officials as a result of severe storms that occurred August 11-15. The purpose of the PDA is to determine if the magnitude of impacts to public health and safety meet eligibility criteria for potential state and/or federal assistance.

The chair for the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation has issued a disaster declaration.

Township officials in Kidder County have been flagging and posting inundated roads.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: None reported at this time.

8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: None reported at this time.

9. OTHER: Situation Reports published by the N.D. Division of Emergency Management are posted on the Division's Internet Home page. The address is: <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

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Douglas C. Friez, State Director